Scurr, Sheri

From:

Slaughter, Adrianne

Sent:

Thursday, February 06, 2014 9:15 AM

To:

Scurr, Sheri; Marshall, Brooke

Subject:

RE: justice involved veterans

Sheri.

I apologize for our tardy reply. Please be advised that veteran status is self-reported and thus reliability of statistics is questionable, no entries are verified for accuracy. Additionally, persons discharged from the military for other than honorable circumstances are not considered veterans for the purpose of this information.

Findings include:

- 4.5% of the 2,512 inmates on site or out to court on 1/31/2014 have a military service entry in our Offender Management Information System (OMIS); however, absence of an entry does not indicate no military service.
- Less than 1% have entries that indicate Veteran Status.

At this time we do not have information available concerning the types of crimes veterans commit. This information may be acquired if the committee feels that dissection of less than 1% of the population will provide any kind of useful information concerning offense history.

Thank you for your patience and please let us know if we can provide any additional information or assistance.

Adrianne Slaughter 444-0340 Aslaughter@mt.gov

From: Scurr, Sheri

Sent: Monday, February 03, 2014 5:30 PM **To:** Marshall, Brooke; Slaughter, Adrianne **Subject:** justice involved veterans

Hi Brooke and Adrianne,

The State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee recently had a presentation on Veteran Courts because SAVA has oversight over veterans issues. After the presentation, the committee asked for research data on the number of veterans in Montana who are involved in the criminal justice system. I have been compiling information from national sources, but I need help finding the data for Montana. Can you point me in the right direction? I couldn't find anything readily available in the DOC Biennial Report or in the MTIBRS. Perhaps I wasn't looking in the right place?

Specifically, I need to find out how many veterans are incarcerated in jails and prisons and any information you may have on the types of crimes veterans seem to commit the most...if there is such a trend or if veterans typically follow the same trends as far as types of crimes as nonveterans.

Unfortunately I have a very short timeline. Our SAVA meeting is Thursday, Feb. 6, so I would like to have the data by Wednesday morning if at all possible. If not possible, I will report it to SAVA in April.

Thanks!

Sheri Scurr Research Analyst Legislative Services Division (406) 444-3596